

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PORT O 00756 191211Z
ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 /019 W
-----191957Z 009933 /43

R 191135Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 459

UNCLAS PORT OF SPAIN 0756

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BENC, BEXP, ECRE, TD
SUBJECT: FOREIGN GOVERNMENT TENDER: CARONI ARENA WATER
SUPPLY PROJECT

REF: STATE 57687

1. THERE IS NO SPECIFIC PROVISION ON NEW CONTRACT 4A FOR PREFERENCE FOR LOCAL FIRMS. THERE IS A STANDING GOVERNMENT CIRCULAR WHICH AUTHORIZES THE CENTRAL TENDERS BOARD TO GIVE LOCAL FIRMS PREFERENCE OF UP TO TEN PERCENT ON ANY CONTRACT UNDER BOARD'S JURISDICTION, PROVIDED THAT ARTICLE OR SERVICE TO BE SUPPLIED MEETS SPECIFICATIONS, BUT THIS IS NOT BINDING ON THE BOARD. CHAIRMAN (POLO) SAID THAT DECISION WOULD REST IN PART ON ABSOLUTE COST, I.E., THEY WERE MORE LIKELY TO GIVE PREFERENCE ON A SMALL CONTRACT THAN ON LARGE ONE WHERE COST WOULD BE SUBSTANTIAL, AND PERCENTAGE OF PREFERENCE WOULD, IN BROAD TERMS, VARY INVERSELY WITH SIZE OF CONTRACT.

2. BOTH POLO AND LOCAL CONSULTING ENGINEER (RONALD WILLIAMS OF TRINTOPLAN) SAID THEY DID NOT BELIEVE ANY LOCAL FIRM HAD CAPABILITY TO BID ON THIS CONTRACT WITHOUT FOREIGN PARTNER IN ANY CASE. POLO POINTED OUT THAT FACT THAT LOW BIDDER ON ONE OF TWO ORIGINAL CONTRACTS WHICH THIS ONE IS TO REPLACE WAS TRINIDADIAN DID NOT PREVENT BOARD FROM REJECTING BID AS BEING TOO HIGH.
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3. EMBASSY DOES NOT RULE OUT POSSIBILITY JOINT VENTURE IN WHICH LOCAL FIRM PLAYS MAJOR ROLE MIGHT BE GIVEN SOME PREFERENCE IF BIDDING IS CLOSE AND OTHER THINGS ARE EQUAL. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THIS IS A PROBLEM THAT NEED CONCERN U.S. BIDDERS UNDULY, HOWEVER, GIVEN ATTENTION BEING PAID TO COST FACTORS ON THIS PROJECT.

FAY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTRUCTION, WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM, CONTRACTS, JOINT VENTURES, BUSINESS FIRMS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Subject: FOREIGN GOVERNMENT TENDER: CARONI ARENA WATER SUPPLY PROJECT
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